



NEWS RELEASE

Rural Development

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CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON \$1.2 MILLION DEQUINCY PUBLIC SAFETY COMPLEX

DEQUINCY, May 23, 2003 – Ground was officially broken today for a new public safety complex in DeQuincy. The new complex will be located at the corner of South Pine and Center Streets and will house a new police station, district attorney's office, probation office, and Louisiana Department of Public Safety drivers' license office.

DeQuincy Mayor L.A. Henagan was joined by local, state, and federal officials to celebrate the occasion. "This new 6,477 square-foot facility is the product of many people putting their heads—and money—together for a good thing," said Mayor Henagan.

The new police station will house offices for the chief of police, patrol officers, detectives, and drug officer in addition to a classroom, interrogation room, and evidence room. "There will be ten, two-man cells, a shower room, exercise room, and locker room," said DeQuincy Police Chief Michael Suchanek. "We are hoping to move into the new facility by next spring."

Construction is being funded by a combination of federal, state, and local dollars: USDA Rural Development—\$819,000 in loan and grant funds; State of Louisiana—\$300,000 in capital outlay grant funds; the Calcasieu Parish Police Jury—\$100,000; and the City of DeQuincy—\$50,000.

"Rural Development is pleased to participate in the funding of this public safety complex," said Michael B. Taylor, State Director for USDA Rural Development in Louisiana. "This is another important step in improving public services for the people of DeQuincy."

The Rural Development Community Facilities Program enables rural communities to develop essential community facilities for public use—facilities such as schools, libraries, childcare facilities, hospitals, medical clinics, assisted living facilities, fire and rescue stations, police stations, community centers, public buildings, and transportation.

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5/23/03

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The Louisiana Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices, located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting Rural Development's web site at: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov>.

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